

DABROWSKI et al.
Appl. No. 10/554,416
May 20, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings replace the original sheets of Figs. 1-3 and 6.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner makes a number of objections to the specification under 35 USC §112, first paragraph to improve the clarity of certain language in the specification. The specification has been amended as requested by the Examiner. The only exception is the suggestion that “of the invention” be inserted as part of two of the headings. Since the headings are discretionary and not required by the rules, Applicants have decided to maintain the headings as they are and submit they are permissible under the rules. Based on the amendments made to the specification, the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Examiner also objects to the drawings requiring that Figures 1 and 2 be labeled as prior art and that Figure 6a include reference labels 15 and 17 commensurate with the description of Figure 6a. Replacement sheets are submitted that make these changes. The Examiner also requested that Figure 9 be amended so that the “via” on the right hand side of the drawing is labeled as “19” instead of “9.” However, a review of the drawings as filed shows that the right via is in fact labeled with the reference numeral 19, and thus, there is no need to make this particular drawing correction requested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-7 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph for indefiniteness. The Examiner’s specific objections have been noted and remedied as requested. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being clearly anticipated based on U.S. Patent 7,030,713 to Ralph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ralph's filing date is March 8, 2004 which is after the priority date of the instant application of April 25, 2003. Accordingly, Ralph is not prior art. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

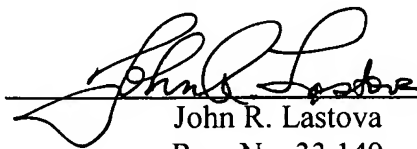
Claims 1-3, 5, and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 USC as being clearly anticipated by Scott and by Banba. These rejections are believed to be moot for the following reasons. Claim 7 was not rejected by the Examiner based on prior art and has been incorporated into claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims should now be allowed. Claim 6 was not rejected by the Examiner and has been rewritten in independent claim format. Claim 11 is not rejected based on prior art and has been incorporated into its independent claim 8, which means that claim 8 and its dependent claim should also be allowed.

The application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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